REMARKS

In accordance with the foregoing, the specification and claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 11, 12, 15-18, 40 and 42 have been amended. Claims 1-7, 11-18, 22-28, 32-26, 40-46, and 50-57 are pending and under consideration. The objections and rejections are traversed below.

OBJECTIONS

The disclosure has been amended as regards Fig. 14 to read "positioned in the deeper side of the sectional view shape of a three-dimensional model <u>222</u>." The disclosure has been further amended to reference the reference characters V2, E11, E12 and N1. It is respectfully requested that the objections be withdrawn.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 101

Claims 40-46 and 50-57 stand objected to as non-statutory under 35 U.S.C. § 101. Claims 40 and 42 have been amended in view of the Examiner's concerns and withdrawal of the rejection is requested.

REJECTIONS under 35 U.S.C. § 112

Claims 1-7, 11-18, 22-28, 32-26, 40-46, and 50-57 stand rejected as not enabled under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph. Examiner argues that the terms PZ_{max} and LZ_{min} are not clearly defined in the claims or the disclosure. Claim 1 recites, "obtaining the maximum value PZ_{max} of the Z-axis direction component of each vertex in a viewpoint coordinate system for each of the plurality of polygons belonging to parts constituting the three-dimensional mode." Claim 1, further recites, "obtaining a value LZ_{min} that is the smaller of the Z-axis direction components in the viewpoint coordinate system of two (2) end points of an arbitrary line obtained from the plurality of polygons." LZ_{min} is defined as the smaller of the Z-axis direction components and PZ_{max} is defined as the maximum value of the Z-axis direction component. The terms are further illustrated in Fig. 10 and defined within the disclosure page 21 lines 16-24 wherein it states "(LZ_{min} means the Z value of an end of a line having a smaller Z value than that of another end (the end farther from the position of the viewpoint than another end). Z_{max} means the largest Z value of the vertex among the vertices of the polygon (the vertex closest to the position of the viewpoint).)" The definition of PZ_{max} and LZ_{min} are defined within the disclosure and the claims. It is respectfully requested that the Examiner withdraw the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

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SUMMARY

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 26, 2006

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